

## Claim Listing:

1. (Previously Presented) A method of processing a stream of data, comprising:  
receiving a stream of data, the stream of data including a plurality of encoded symbols at a circuit;  
contemporaneously processing a first subset of the encoded symbols to identify a second subset of the encoded symbols, wherein each symbol in the second subset of the encoded symbols are encoded based on a common probability of occurrence of symbols in a symbol set, and wherein encoded symbols in the first subset that are not in the second subset are not encoded based on the common probability of occurrence of symbols in the symbol set;  
evaluating at least one symbol from the second subset of encoded symbols to determine the common probability of occurrence of symbols in the symbols set after contemporaneously processing the first subset; and  
using the common probability of occurrence of symbol in the symbol set to process the second subset of encoded symbols.
2. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein processing the second subset of encoded symbols comprises decoding the stream of data.
3. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the data stream includes encoded video data.
4. (Original) The method of claim 3 wherein the encoded symbols represent elements of the encoded video data.
5. (Original) The method of claim 4 wherein the encoded symbols are encoded using the H.264 standard encoding scheme.
6. (Original) The method of claim 4 wherein the encoded symbols are encoded using the MPEG-4 part 10 standard encoding scheme.

7. (Currently Amended) A method of processing a stream of data, comprising:  
receiving a stream of data, the stream of data comprising a plurality of symbols to be encoded at a circuit;  
contemporaneously encoding a first subset of the symbols to identify a second subset of the symbols, where each symbol in the second subset uses a common encoding context, wherein said encoding context indicates a probability for a plurality of possible symbols;  
evaluating at least one symbol from the second subset of symbols to determine the common coding context; and  
using the common encoding context to encode the second subset of symbols; and wherein each symbol in the second subset of the encoded symbols are encoded based on a common probability of occurrence of symbols in a symbol set, and wherein encoded symbols in the first subset that are not in the second subset are not encoded based on the common probability of occurrence of symbols in the symbol set.

8. (Cancelled)

9. (Original) The method of claim 7 wherein the stream of data includes video data.

10. (Original) The method of claim 9 wherein the symbols represent elements of the video data.

11. (Original) The method of claim 10 wherein the video data is encoded using the H.264 standard encoding scheme.

12. (Original) The method of claim 10 wherein the video data is encoded using the MPEG-4 part 10 standard encoding scheme.

13. (Cancelled)

14. (Cancelled)

15. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 7, wherein the coding context indicates a most probable symbol.
16. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 7, wherein the coding context indicates a less probable symbol.
17. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 15, further comprising:
  - determining a probability for the most likely symbol; and
  - determining a probability for the less likely symbol.
18. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 17, further comprising:
  - establishing a boundary value based on the probability for the most likely symbol and the less likely symbol.
19. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 18, further comprising:
  - calculating a code value from the stream of data; and
  - determining whether to select the most likely symbol or the less likely symbol based on a comparison of the code value with the boundary value.
20. (Cancelled)